

## Message Text

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72

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 EB-07 SS-15 SSO-00 /038 W

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O 062116Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9005

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 5849

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, OVIP, PFOR, VE

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE CONFERENCE - VISIT OF SECRETARY BUTZ

REF: STATE 129422

1. THIS CABLE FURNISHES ANSWERS TO POINTS 1, 2, 4, AND 5 IN  
REFTEL. DETAILED SCHEDULE WILL BE CABLED SEPTTEL.

2. FOLLOWING IS SUGGESTED ARRIVAL STATEMENT: "MRS. BUTZ AND I  
ARE DELIGHTED TO BE HERE AND TO HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO KNOW  
SOMETHING OF YOUR COUNTRY. I LOOK FORWARD WITH PARTICULAR  
PLEASURE TO DISCUSSING MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST WITH MINISTER  
OF AGRICULTURE CARMELO CONTRERAS AND OTHER OFFICIALS OF YOUR  
GOVERNMENT. THE WORLD FOOD SITUATION DEMANDS INTENSIFIED INTER-  
NATIONAL COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURE. I KNOW YOUR GOVERNMENT  
SHARES THAT VIEW AND, I AM SURE, OUR CONVERSATIONS WILL HELP  
TO BROADEN UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES IN THIS  
FIELD. I HOPE ALSO TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION ON AGRICULTURAL  
POLICIES AND PRACTICES IN THE TWO COUNTRIES. MY VISIT HERE  
WILL, IN ADDITION, INCLUDE PRESIDING OVER THE OPENING OF A  
CONFERENCE OF U.S. AGRICULTURAL ATTACHES WHO HAVE COME TO  
CARACAS FROM THEIR STATIONS THROUGHOUT LATIN AMERICA. WE  
WILL BE DISCUSSING A WIDE VARIETY OF AGRICULTURAL ISSUES AND  
PROGRAMS. AGAIN, IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE TO BE HERE. THANK YOU."

3. IN ADDRESS TO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, WE RECOMMEND THAT SEC.  
BUTZ' SPEECH INCLUDE FOLLOWING SUB-TOPICS:

- A. U.S. AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND EXPORT SITUATION FOR 1975.
- B. U.S. FARM SECTOR AS A DEPENDABLE SUPPLIER.

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- C. WORLD FOOD SITUATION AND U.S. ROLE.

D. USDA OVERSEAS PROGRAMS FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. SPEECH SHOULD LAST ABOUT 30 MINUTES; GENERALLY SPEECHES ARE FOLLOWED BY A QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD OF 15 MINUTES.

4. WE RECOMMEND A PRESS CONFERENCE BY SEC. IT WOULD BE ATTENDED BY LEADING LOCAL AGRICULTURAL EDITORS AND WRITERS. SECRETARY COULD DELIVER SHORT OPENING STATEMENT. WOULD RECOMMEND SOMETHING ALONG LINES OF NEED FOR NATIONS SUCH AS VENEZUELA TO DEVELOP THEIR AGRICULTURAL POTENTIAL IN VIEW OF WORLD FOOD SITUATION. SECRETARY COULD CITE PRESIDENT PEREZ'S INTEREST IN DEVELOPMENT OF VENEZUELA'S AGRICULTURAL SECTOR, REFERRING TO PROGRAMS OUTLINED IN PEREZ'S FIRST MESSAGE (EQUIVALENT TO STATE OF THE UNION) TO CONGRESS IN MARCH 1975 (SEE AGATT REPORT VZ-5010). MENTION SHOULD ALSO BE MADE OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT FUND, WHICH IS SLATED TO PROVIDE FARM SECTOR WITH BOLIVARES 2 BILLION (APPROXIMATELY U.S. \$465 MILLION) PER YEAR IN FINANCIAL CREDIT (SEE AGATT REPORTS VZ-5001 AND VZ-5002). ASIDE FROM POSSIBLE QUESTIONS ON SUPPLY OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS IN U.S. AND WORLD, FOLLOWING TOPICS MAY BE RAISED BY VENEZUELAN PRESS PEOPLE:

- A. U.S. TRADE BILL AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST VENEZUELA AS MEMBER OF OPEC.
- B. "LOW" PRICES OF VENEZUELAN FARM PRODUCTS IN U.S. (AND WORLD) MARKETS).
- C. RESTRICTIVE NATURE OF U.S. REGULATIONS (GENERALLY SANITARY) GOVERNING ENTRY OF VENEZUELAN FARM PRODUCTS.
- D. PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE U.S. SUGAR LEGISLATION (ALTHOUGH VENEZUELA IS NOT NOW A SUGAR EXPORTER).
- E. USG POSITION ON EXPORTER GROUPINGS.
- F. EXPLANATION OF "HIGH" PRICES FOR U.S. FARM PRODUCT EXPORTS (A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF VENEZUELAN DO NOT KNOW THAT U.S. FARM AND EXPORT PRICES HAVE DROPPED FROM LAST YEAR'S LEVELS).
- G. SAME AS F) BUT FOR FARM MACHINERY AND AGRICULTURAL SUPPLIES.
- H. WHAT DOES THE SECRETARY SEE AS THE PROBLEMS (AND SOLUTIONS) FACING VENEZUELA'S AGRICULTURAL SECTOR (THIS TYPE OF QUESTION, OF COURSE, SHOULD BE AVOIDED).
- I. WHAT COULD THE USDA DO TO ASSIST VENEZUELA'S AGRICULTURAL SECTOR.

5. PLEASE PROVIDE FINAL TEXT OF ARRIVAL STATEMENT ASAP SO THAT SPANISH TRANSLATION CAN BE READY FOR DISTRIBUTION AT TIME OF CONFIDENTIAL

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ARRIVAL.

6. BLACK TIE OR OTHER FORMAL CLOTHING NOT NECESSARY. SHLAUDEMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGRICULTURAL ATTACHES, MEETINGS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, BRIEFING MATERIALS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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